



STATE OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF
COMMERCE
COMMUNITY AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Mike Dunleavy, Governor
Julie Anderson, Commissioner
Robert M. Pickett, Chairman

Regulatory Commission of Alaska

April 17, 2020

In reply refer to: Tariff Section
File: TA32-998
LO#: L2000161

Keegan Bernier
Agent
Alaska Universal Service Administrative Company
810 N Street, Suite 204
Anchorage, AK 99501

Dear Ms. Bernier:

Alaska Universal Service Administrative Company (AUSAC) filed TA32-998 on March 9, 2020, seeking to revise its tariff in compliance with 3 AAC 48.200 – 3 AAC 48.430. On April 16, 2020, the Regulatory Commission of Alaska approved Tariff Sheet Nos. 2, 6, 9, 14, and 29, and the Monthly Carrier Remittance Worksheet Instructions, filed March 9, 2020, by AUSAC with TA32-998. The effective date of the tariff sheets and the worksheet instructions is April 23, 2020.

Enclosed are validated copies of the approved tariff sheets and worksheet instructions. Please note that the effective date has been added to the bottom right corner of each tariff sheet and page of the worksheet instructions.

BY DIRECTION OF THE COMMISSION

Sincerely,

REGULATORY COMMISSION OF ALASKA

David Parrish
Common Carrier Section Manager

Enclosures

RCA No. 998 Thirtieth Revised Sheet No. 2

Cancelling Twenty-ninth Revised Sheet No. 2

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REGULATORY COMMISSION OF ALASKA

ALASKA UNIVERSAL SERVICE ADMINISTRATIVE COMPANY

RESERVED FOR FUTURE USE

(D)

(D)

Tariff Advice No. 32-998

Effective: **April 23, 2020**

Date Issued:

Issued By: **ALASKA UNIVERSAL SERVICE ADMINISTRATIVE COMPANY**

By: _____
Andilea Weaver

Title: President

RCA No. 998 First Revised Sheet No. 6

Cancelling _____ Original _____ Sheet No 6

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CONCURRING CARRIERS

Concurring Carriers bill the AUSF surcharge to End Users as a separate line item charge, captioned "Alaska Universal Service Fund Surcharge," on their billing statement. The percentage surcharge billed to End Users by Concurring Carriers is the same percentage rate as the AUSF surcharge percentage rate approved by the Commission, and contained in this tariff on Tariff Sheet No. 26.

(D)

Tariff Advice No. 32-998

Effective: **April 23, 2020**

Date Issued:

Issued By: **ALASKA UNIVERSAL SERVICE ADMINISTRATIVE COMPANY**

By: _____
Andilea Weaver

Title: President

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REGULATORY COMMISSION OF ALASKA**ALASKA UNIVERSAL SERVICE ADMINISTRATIVE COMPANY**

DEFINITION OF TERMS

AUSAC: The Alaska Universal Service Administration Company.

AUSE: The Alaska Universal Service Fund.

Carrier Common Line: The access that provides for the use of Telephone Company Common Lines by customers for access to end users to furnish intrastate service. Designated to Essential Network Support, in accordance with 3 AAC 53.346 that is in effect on December 20, 2018.

Carrier of Last Resort: A local exchange carrier so designated by the Commission to provide facilities based retail and carrier to carrier services in accordance with 3 AAC 53.265. A Carrier of Last Resort that is not a participant in the access charge pool is eligible to receive COLR support from the AUSF. Designated to Essential Network Support, in accordance with 3 AAC 53.346 that is in effect on December 20, 2018.

Commission: The Regulatory Commission of Alaska (formerly known as Alaska Public Utilities Commission).

Concurring Carrier: Any intrastate telecommunications carrier who has elected to flow through AUSF surcharge amounts to end users. (D)

DEM: The minutes of holding time of the originating and terminating switching equipment of a Local Exchange Carrier. Holding time has the same meaning as set forth in 3 AAC 48.430(I)(2).

DEM Weighting: The weighting of the intrastate DEM of a Local Exchange Carrier with less than 50,000 access lines, using the weighting formula set forth at 3 AAC 48.430(e).

Tariff Advice No.

32-998

Effective:

April 23, 2020

Date Issued:

Issued By: **ALASKA UNIVERSAL SERVICE ADMINISTRATIVE COMPANY**By: _____
Andilea WeaverTitle: President

RCA No. 998 Second Revised Sheet No. 14

Cancelling _____ First Revised Sheet No. 14

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REGULATORY COMMISSION OF ALASKA

ALASKA UNIVERSAL SERVICE ADMINISTRATIVE COMPANY

ALASKA UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUND SURCHARGE

A. General

Payments by Intrastate Telecommunication Carriers to the Alaska Universal Service Fund are collected in the form of a surcharge on intrastate End User Revenues of Subject Carriers. Carriers may recover the surcharge from ratepayers through a line item charge on their bills, identified as "Alaska Universal Service Fund Surcharge". The line item charge for concurring carriers shall be a percentage of End User Revenue billings, set at the same percentage rate that AUSAC charges to Subject Carriers. (D) (D)

Tariff Advice No. 32-998

Effective: **April 23, 2020**

Date Issued: _____

Issued By: **ALASKA UNIVERSAL SERVICE ADMINISTRATIVE COMPANY**

By: _____
Andilea Weaver

Title: President

ALASKA UNIVERSAL SERVICE ADMINISTRATIVE COMPANY

APPENDIX I

This Appendix contains samples of current Forms and Reports for the administration of the AUSF that have been approved by the Commission. The Forms and Reports are not numbered as tariff sheets. Forms and Reports included in Appendix I are:

<u>Name of Form</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>No. of Pages</u>	
Monthly Carrier Remittance Worksheet	January 1, 2019	1	
Monthly Carrier Remittance Worksheet Instructions		11	(T)

Date Issued:

Issued By: ALASKA UNIVERSAL SERVICE ADMINISTRATIVE COMPANY

By: _____
Andilea Weaver

Title: President

ALASKA UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUND

Monthly Carrier Remittance Worksheet Instructions

I. Filing Requirements and General Instruction

A. Introduction

On December 30, 1998, the Regulatory Commission of Alaska (RCA) (formerly known as the Alaska Public Utilities Commission or APUC) issued Order R-97-6(8) to create the Alaska Universal Service Fund (AUSF) and designating the Alaska Universal Service Administrative Company (AUSAC) to administer the collection and distribution of the monies for the Alaska Universal Service Fund (AUSF). The Alaska Universal Service Fund (AUSF) is established to promote the efficiency, availability and affordability of universal telephone service in Alaska. These instructions explain how to complete the Monthly Carrier Remittance Worksheet, which is used to calculate and provide underlying support for monthly payments by intrastate telecommunications carriers to the Alaska Universal Service Fund (AUSF). The monthly payments due are computed as a specified percentage of revenues billed to end-users.

B. Who Must File

With certain exceptions, the AUSF is to be funded by all intrastate telecommunications carriers that operate or provide telecommunications services within the State of Alaska. An intrastate telecommunications transmission is one that originates and terminates in Alaska, irrespective of actual routing.

C. When and Where to File

Monthly Carrier Remittance Worksheets and remittances must be received by AUSAC on or before the 20th calendar day of each month. Payment shall be delinquent on the 21st calendar day.

Monthly Carrier Remittance Worksheet Instructions

Payments due of sums greater than \$500.00 shall be made by wire transfer or Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT) directly to AUSAC's AUSF bank account on or before the 20th calendar day from the date the bill was rendered. If this due date is a local bank holiday, funds shall be wire transferred or EFT on the prior workday. Payments of \$500.00 or less may be paid via check mailed in time to arrive at AUSAC's office no later than the 20th calendar day from the date the bill was rendered.

Send completed worksheet and payment to:	Alaska Universal Service Administrative Company 810 N Street, Suite 204 Anchorage, Alaska 99501 Fax (907) 561-6303 Email info@ausac.org
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D. Interest and Damages on Late Payments

If payment is not received in immediately available funds by the due date, interest at the rate of .000287 per day, calculated on the total amount due, will be charged until the date paid. In addition to interest, if payment is not received in immediately available funds within two (2) working days of the due date, a one-time liquidated damages sum equal to one percent (1%) of the total amount due will be charged.

II. Line-by-Line Instructions for Completion of the Monthly Carrier Remittance Worksheet

All information provided must be legible and printed in black ink, typed, or electronically reproduced.

Monthly Carrier Remittance Worksheet Instructions

Filing Identification Information

The following blocks are located in the top margin of the Monthly Carrier Remittance Worksheet. Fill in the information as follows:

Block A - Company Code

The company code, supplied by AUSAC, starts with AK followed by four digits. For existing companies, this code is located in the top right corner of the packet cover letter. If this is the first filing for this company, and you have not been assigned a code, indicate NEW in this block.

Block B - Submission Date

The Submission Date is the date the Monthly Carrier Remittance Worksheet is being forwarded to AUSAC. AUSAC should receive the worksheet by the 20th day of each month.

Block C - Revenue Data Month and Year

The Revenue Data Month and Year indicates the month and year that corresponds to the revenue data being reported.

Block D - Original or Revision

Carriers should indicate if this is the initial (original) submission of a revenue data month or if the Monthly Carrier Remittance Worksheet contains a revenue data month revision. Revisions should be indicated only when filing a correction or adjustment to a previously filed data month.

Filing Revisions

Revisions may be used for correction of revenues previously reported. Revision period is the most recent 24 months. When filing a revision, follow these same instructions, making certain that the correct Revenue Data Month has been entered in Block C and revision is indicated in Block D. Attach a copy of the original filing for the Revenue Data Month being revised. Provide actual revised revenue amounts, not differences.

Monthly Carrier Remittance Worksheet Instructions

Section 1: Carrier Identification

Line 1 - Company Name

Enter the carrier name that identifies the filing entity and/or any doing business as (d/b/a) names if applicable.

Line 1a - Mailing Address

Enter the complete mailing address of the corporate headquarters of the carrier including street address, city, state, zip, suite numbers, floor, etc.

Line 1b - Telephone

Enter telephone number for the company headquarters.

Line 1c – Email Address

Enter email address for the company headquarters.

Monthly Carrier Remittance Worksheet Instructions

Section 2 - Monthly Intrastate End User Revenue Data

Enter numbers to the nearest whole dollar; for example, enter \$1,258.67 as \$1,259; enter \$1,258.34 as \$1,258.

Revenues entered here should be for the revenue data month indicated in Block C of this form. These revenues should correspond to the official accounting records of the company except if using estimated numbers to be reconciled to actuals at the end of the filing company's accounting period.

End-User Revenues: General Instructions

As a general rule, the AUSF surcharge is charged to a company as a percentage of end-user revenues billed for intrastate telecommunications services. Intrastate telecommunications carriers may recover the surcharge from end-users through a line item charge on their bills, identified as "Alaska Universal Service Fund Surcharge."

End-user revenues are revenues billed to end-users. An end-user is any customer of an intrastate telecommunications service who is not a telecommunications carrier, (hereinafter referred to as a "carrier") except that a carrier shall be deemed to be an "end-user" to the extent that such carrier uses a telecommunication service for administrative purposes, without making such services available to others, directly or indirectly. Telecommunications carriers offer telecommunications services for a fee directly to the public or to such classes of users as to be effectively available to the public. Telecommunications carriers subject to the AUSF surcharge are those carriers offering one or more of the following services:

Monthly Carrier Remittance Worksheet Instructions

Section 2 - Monthly Intrastate End User Revenue Data (Continued)

1. Cellular telephone and paging services;
2. Mobile radio services;
3. Operator services;
4. Personal communications services (PCS);
5. Local exchange service;
6. Special access service;
7. WATS;
8. Toll-free service;
9. 900 service;
10. Message telephone service (MTS);
11. Private line service;
12. Telex;
13. Telegraph;
14. Video services;
15. Satellite service;
16. Resale of intrastate services; and
17. Pay phone services.
18. Network Access Fee
19. Interconnected Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP)

In order to ensure that the surcharge is charged equitably and fairly on end-user revenues once but not twice, when a carrier receives revenues from sale of telecommunications service to another carrier, most generally as a wholesale transaction, the selling carrier's revenues are exempt from the AUSF surcharge. In such cases the purchasing carrier is charged the AUSF surcharge when it converts the purchased service into a service sold to the public or to an end-user. However, if the carrier purchasing the service uses the service for its own administrative purposes, then that revenue is considered an end-user revenue and is treated for surcharge purposes like any other end user revenue. For example, if a long distance company purchases from another long distance company, whether retail or wholesale, to the extent that it resells the service to end-users, the purchasing company is responsible for paying the AUSF surcharge. To the extent that the purchasing company uses the service for its own administrative purposes, and does not resell it, then the company selling the service should pay the AUSF surcharge. Specific examples and illustrations are given later in these instructions.

Monthly Carrier Remittance Worksheet Instructions

Section 2 - Monthly Intrastate End User Revenue Data (Continued)

Exemptions

There are several categories of exemptions from the AUSF surcharge. They are described below with illustrative examples. The examples are meant as illustrations and do not necessarily limit the possible exemptions.

1. Wholesale transactions between carriers, including access charges, interconnection charges, and billing and collection charges are exempt from the AUSF surcharge because they are not end-user revenues. The exception is when the purchasing company uses the service for its own administrative means. For example, carriers purchasing interexchange service from a facilities based carrier's wholesale tariff are normally exempt from the AUSF surcharge. In addition, if a reselling company purchases from the retail tariff of an interexchange carrier with the intent of reselling the service, the AUSF surcharge is not charged to the selling carrier. As another example, if an interexchange carrier purchases an intrastate special access or private line link from a local exchange carrier and repackages it to an end-user, the interexchange carrier who receives the end-user revenues directly should pay the AUSF surcharge.
2. All interstate revenues and international revenues are exempt from the AUSF surcharge by definition. If carriers are not able to directly segregate intrastate revenues from interstate and international revenues, they may use accepted, rational and systematic methods to allocate such revenues. Such allocation methods are subject to verification and audit.
3. Services offered by telecommunications carriers but which are not considered telecommunications services are also exempt from the AUSF surcharge. Examples of such services are sales and rentals of telephone equipment, inside wire and maintenance services sold to customers, and yellow pages ("directory") advertising. Also exempt are other surcharges imposed by the RCA; for example the regulatory cost surcharge, E911 surcharges, and the TRS surcharge. Late payment fees are also exempted.
4. Also exempted are state, local and federal taxes, federal USF payments, and support payments from the AUSF. These are not end-user revenues.
5. Other exemptions include cable TV services, open video systems, cable leased access, and direct broadcast satellite services. These are exempted by the RCA's order establishing the AUSF. Refer to RCA Tariff 998, Part II.C. for Exemptions from Payment of Surcharge.

Effective: **April 23, 2020**

Monthly Carrier Remittance Worksheet Instructions

Section 2 - Monthly Intrastate End User Revenue Data (Continued)

In summary, a company purchasing a service for resale to an end-user will assess the AUSF assessment on revenues collected from its end-users. The wholesale company will not include service that it sells to resellers in its retail revenues. Services purchased for internal use and not resold to end-users will be considered end user revenues to the wholesale company, which should calculate and make AUSF payments on such revenues. They will not be included in the reseller's retail revenues.

Line 2 - Local Service Revenues

Includes basic monthly charges, customer charges, installation fees, service order charges, vertical features, extended area service charges, location charges for mileage bands, and all other local exchange service revenues, such as would be found in the Company's tariff. (Do not include the federal subscriber line charge.) Also includes revenues from providing local services that involve dedicated circuits, private switching arrangements and/or predefined transmission paths.

Line 3 - Wireless/PCS/Mobile/Paging Revenues

Includes intrastate charges such as basic wireless monthly charges, usage charges, activation fees, service restoration, service order processing charges, end user prepaid wireless charges, administration fees, and all other wireless telecommunications revenues. Also includes airtime charges and roaming usage in Alaska. Airtime should include revenues billed to wireless customers for actual airtime usage.

Line 4 - Interexchange Switched Toll and Private Line Revenues

Includes intrastate toll message revenues including operator services, cellular intrastate long distance revenues and intrastate 800 revenues. For purposes of determining intrastate 800 revenues, carriers may use the Percent Interstate Usage (PIU) factor used for reporting interstate access minutes to allocate revenues between interstate and intrastate. Also includes revenues from providing dedicated circuits, private switching arrangements and/or predefined transmission paths that extend beyond the basic service area.

Line 5 - Pay Telephone Revenues

Includes intrastate revenues derived from public and semi-public telephone services.

Monthly Carrier Remittance Worksheet Instructions

Section 2 - Monthly Intrastate End User Revenue Data (Continued)

Line 6 - VoIP Revenues

Includes interconnected Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) intrastate end user revenues.

Line 7 - Other Revenues

Includes miscellaneous intrastate end user revenues that would not reasonably be included with one of the other service categories.

Line 7 a. Less Uncollectible Revenue

Intrastate uncollectible Revenue is required to be listed here.

Line 8 - Total Intrastate End-User Revenues

Total the figures for Line 2 through Line 7 a. and enter this amount on Line 8. This represents the total monthly intrastate retail revenues.

Section 3 - Remittance Calculation

Line 9 - AUSF Rate

The current AUSF effective date and percentage rate appears on this line.

Line 10 - AUSF Amount Due

Multiply the amount on Line 8 by Line 9 as indicated on the worksheet and enter the result on Line 10.

Section 4 - Change in Company Status

Line 11 - Date

If there is a carrier name change, enter the effective date.

Line 12 - Business Status Change

If business status has changed in Alaska, enter the date that the business was sold, merged, or discontinued.

Monthly Carrier Remittance Worksheet Instructions

Line 12 a. - Survivor Company Name

If business has been sold or merged, provide the survivor company name. If the business has recently started in Alaska, enter the date the business began.

Section 5 - Certification**Line 13 - Signature Information**

Enter date, name, signature, and title of the person signing the report. The signature attests to the accuracy of all information on this remittance worksheet.

Line 14 - Contact Information

Provide name, title, and telephone number of a person to contact if there are questions regarding this report. If contact person is same as authorized signature, indicate "same as line 14." Mailings will be sent to the contact person address unless other arrangements are made with AUSAC.

Line 15 - Signer's Mailing Address

Enter the complete mailing address of the person signing the report.

Line 16 - Signer's Email Address

Enter the complete Email address of the person signing the report.

Monthly Carrier Remittance Worksheet Instructions

Worksheet Submission and Payment Method

For payments by check mail completed forms and checks to AUSAC at address indicated. For electronic transfer payments, you may send the Monthly Carrier Remittance Worksheet to AUSAC via fax or e-mail.

In the bottom right margin, please check applicable payment method.

Worksheet Record and Retention Period

Contributors to the AUSF shall maintain records and documentation to justify information reported in the Monthly Carrier Remittance Worksheet Instructions including the methodology used to determine projections, for five years and shall provide such records and documentation to the Commission or AUSAC upon request.